

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 23, 2006

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 118**

**Introduced by Senator Hollingsworth**

**(Coauthor: Senator Battin)**

(Coauthor: Assembly Member Cogdill Coauthors: Assembly Members  
Cogdill, Maze, and Mountjoy)

May 1, 2006

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 118—Relative to Mexico's immigration policies.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 118, as amended, Hollingsworth. Mexico's immigration policies.

This measure would urge Mexico to reform its immigration policies to guarantee rights to those who immigrate to Mexico *and treat its own migrants with the same respect the United States of America extends to Mexican migrants.*

Fiscal committee: no.

1     ~~WHEREAS, Experts report that when Mexico has a need for~~  
2     ~~illegal aliens, they are allowed in, but when there is not a need,~~  
3     ~~they are sent out. Mexico has one set of values for the immigrant~~  
4     ~~and another set of values for the emigrant, according to a~~  
5     ~~government consultant from San Diego; and~~  
6     ~~WHEREAS, Most of Mexico's undocumented workers come~~  
7     ~~from south of Mexico, mostly from Guatemala; they are hired by~~  
8     ~~Mexican growers to perform seasonal agricultural jobs and are~~  
9     ~~quickly forced to leave Mexico once their jobs are done. These~~  
10    ~~workers are willing to labor in the fields for jobs that most~~

~~Mexicans refuse to perform such as picking coffee beans, fruits, and vegetables. Violations of Mexico's minimum wage and of basic human rights standards are reportedly widespread where illegal Central Americans are employed; and~~

*WHEREAS, Mexico has been demanding that the United States ignore, alter, or abolish its own immigration laws for Mexico's citizens who migrate to the United States regardless of their legal status; and*

*WHEREAS, Migrants in the United States have held huge demonstrations in recent weeks demanding more rights while hundreds of thousands of undocumented migrants in Mexico suffer mostly in silence since Mexico provides few protections for migrants on its own soil; and*

~~WHEREAS, The Mexican Constitution segregates immigrants migrants and naturalized citizens from native-born citizens by denying immigrants migrants basic human rights that migrants enjoy in the United States; and~~

*WHEREAS, The Mexican constitution states that migrants and foreign visitors are denied basic property and equal employment rights, may be expelled for any reason and without due process, may never become members of the clergy or serve as military officers, and may be arrested by private citizens; and*

~~WHEREAS, The Mexican Constitution is unfriendly to immigrants by forbidding noncitizens to participate in the country's political life. Noncitizens are prohibited from migrants by stating that migrants and naturalized citizens will never be treated as real Mexican citizens, are not to be trusted in public service, and are banned from public political discourse, which includes participating in demonstrations or expressing opinions in public about domestic policies; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The Mexican Constitution denies fundamental property rights to foreigners; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The Mexican Constitution guarantees that immigrants will never be treated as real Mexican citizens, even if they are legally naturalized. All foreigners, immigrants, and naturalized citizens are banned from serving as military officers; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The Mexican Constitution singles out "undesirable aliens"; Article 11 of their Constitution guarantees federal protection against "undesirable alien residents in the~~

country”; and “undesirable aliens” and only welcomes foreigners who will be useful to Mexican society. Foreigners may be barred from the country if their presence upsets the equilibrium of the national demographics, if they are deemed detrimental to economic or national interests, if they have broken Mexican laws, or if they are not found to be physically or mentally healthy; and

WHEREAS, The Mexican Constitution states that foreigners may be expelled for any reason and without due process; and

WHEREAS, The Mexican government acknowledges that many migrants are particularly vulnerable to abuse by corrupt police. Jose Ramos, an 18-year-old migrant from El Salvador, says that extortion occurs at every stop in Mexico, until migrants are left penniless and begging for food; and

WHEREAS, Mexican police and soldiers usually cause the most trouble for migrants in Mexico, even though they are not technically authorized to enforce immigration laws; and

WHEREAS, According to the Associated Press, migrants in Mexico fear detention, rape, and robbery. Police and soldiers have been known to hunt them down at railroads, bus stations, and fleabag hotels. Sometimes they are deported, but more often than not, officers simply take their money. Most cases of brutality occur along a 600 mile border with Guatemala; and

WHEREAS, There are more than 100 criminal bands that prey on migrants; they form gangs that raid trains at checkpoints, steal cars, and kidnap children for money. Authorities on the other hand, usually only impose bribes from aliens. Bribes buy the passage of drugs, weapons, stolen automobiles, prostitutes, exotic animals, or archeological artifacts; and

WHEREAS, Mexico’s immigration restrictions are the toughest on the continent, which include making illegal immigration a felony, imprisoning Mexicans who assist illegal migrants, imprisoning or deporting foreigners with fake immigration papers or who enter the country under false pretenses, ensuring that immigration authorities have a record of each foreign visitor, and ensuring that foreign visitors do not violate their visa status; and

WHEREAS, Experts report that when Mexico has a need for illegal aliens, they are allowed in, but when there is not a need,

1 *they are sent out. Mexico has one set of values for the immigrant*  
2 *and another set of values for the migrant; and*

3 *WHEREAS, The majority of Mexico's undocumented workers*  
4 *come from south of Mexico, mostly from Guatemala, and are*  
5 *hired by Mexican growers to perform seasonal agricultural jobs*  
6 *and are quickly forced to leave Mexico once their jobs are done.*  
7 *These workers are willing to labor in the fields for jobs that most*  
8 *Mexicans refuse to perform such as picking coffee beans, fruits,*  
9 *and vegetables. Violations of Mexico's minimum wage and of*  
10 *basic human rights standards are reportedly widespread where*  
11 *illegal Central Americans are employed; and*

12 *WHEREAS, Mexico routinely fills 10 or 12 buses a day with*  
13 *undocumented Central Americans and buses them back to their*  
14 *country of origin and has deported or detained undocumented*  
15 *migrants at an estimated amount of 143,000 in 1993, 90,000 in*  
16 *1990, 138,000 in 2002, and 240,000 in 2005; and*

17 *WHEREAS, Mexico has a population of 107 million yet has*  
18 *only legalized 15,000 migrants in the past five years; and*

19 *WHEREAS, The Mexican government has urged the United*  
20 *States in recent years to legally and financially accommodate*  
21 *undocumented Mexican migrants living and working in the*  
22 *United States, but Mexico apparently has no reservations about*  
23 *detaining and deporting its own illegal migrants; and*

24 *WHEREAS, The Mexican government acknowledges that many*  
25 *migrants are particularly vulnerable to abuse by corrupt police.*  
26 *Jose Ramos, a migrant from El Salvador, says that extortion*  
27 *occurs at every stop in Mexico, until migrants are left penniless*  
28 *and begging for food; and*

29 *WHEREAS, Mexican police and soldiers usually cause the*  
30 *most trouble for migrants in Mexico, even though they are not*  
31 *technically authorized to enforce immigration laws; and*

32 *WHEREAS, The level of brutality Central American migrants*  
33 *face came to the headlines when police conducting a raid for*  
34 *undocumented migrants near a rail yard outside Mexico City, in*  
35 *Tultitlan, shot a local man to death, apparently because his dark*  
36 *skin and work clothes made officers think he was a migrant, even*  
37 *though he was a Mexican citizen; now, therefore, be it*

38 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
39 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California*  
40 *urges Mexico to reform its policies to guarantee rights to those*

1 who immigrate to Mexico *and treat its own migrants with the*  
2 *same respect the United States of America extends to Mexican*  
3 *migrants*; and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
5 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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